

THE BYSTANDER



The Weary Round.
A Banyan Grove.
If Brown Returns.

One can have too much of a good thing, even of Hawaiian music. The other night I sat at meat in a place which looked serene and quiet when all at once, from a hotel near by, there issued a wail of island melody. It was good music, albeit melancholy, and the tourists who heard, clapped their hands until their palms were purple. As for me I cussed along the curve of a crescent until I passed the high C and rounded off on the big D.

What was the trouble with The Bystander? Oh, nothing but a surfeit of those same old Aloha Oes and things. I had heard them in the original German folksied thirty-five years ago, before Heri Berger had adapted them into Hawaiian. And I have heard them continuously since while my soul has thirsted for the light new things from the boulevards and music halls. Had I heard this or that, which all the East was humming and thrumming, some one asked me? To be sure not; Heavens no! My punishment was to forever hear those same old Schleswig-Hawaiian airs; and do you know, when I am sent hence to be punished for my sins, I don't expect to be grilled, for I have long been familiar with grills, nor do I expect to be roasted, because I have long written for the papers and am immune—but I do expect to be chained to a rock right next to the paddock occupied by a native glee club.

Nevertheless, Hawaiian music is a tourist asset. Every wayfarer on these shores wants to hear it over and over again. It is one of the things which distinguish Hawaii from the commonplace parts of America. But on behalf of the tired inhabitants of this paradise I rise to move, sir, that hereafter Hawaiian music shall come in with the tourist and go out with him; and that any person or persons, caught singing or playing it between the autumnal and vernal equinoxes, shall be sentenced to hear Joel Cohen's whole story about his trip with Berger, three times a day.

If that motion prevails I shall move that the Hawaiian glee clubs be induced to learn up-to-date music which will be played here exclusively between April and November. By this means the average Hawaiian-American, when he goes abroad and hears a relatively new thing or even a thing as old as "The Banks of the Wabash" or the Floradora chorus, won't stop like a dumb thing and breathe softly so he won't lose any of it; and then ask his friend the Broadway rounder, if he ever heard it before.

One of the things—the growing things—that interest our tourists most, is the banyan tree. A youngster back East, poring over the pictures in his first geography, lingers longest over the banyan. He reads that its branches fall and take root and that, if the tree is let alone, it will some day cover a farm. When he grows up and goes to a banyan country he looks up his old friend the arboreal monarch before he identifies himself at the bank.

It strikes me that Honolulu has never risen to the occasion and acquired as many banyans as it needs in its tourist business. Why not a great banyan grove? Why not forty banyans growing together? Eureka! Why not a banyan section of the park?

Take the Diamond Head end of Kapiolani park where the scraggly iron-woods and the commonplace kiawes grow; include the old race-track, which has become an eye-sore; dig big holes all about and enrich them with garbage and fertilizer and then plant banyans. Let the other trees grow as they may, to be eventually cut down. Keep the banyans well cultivated and in ten or fifteen years the grove will be as famous as Waikiki beach or Punchbowl. Think of the vast, leafy tabernacle of the future; that mighty amplitude of pillar and aisle, that cathedral vista of sun-flecked gloom; of the cool, breezy shade. Then figure out—this is for the supervisors—how much less it will cost to put the unfinished end of the park in banyans than to sod it and provide for flower beds and fountains.

Judging from the cheer which wrinkles the hard faces of the Chinese gamblers; the renewed gaiety in the slums; the boasts of Birhe and the resurrection of Vida, I infer that the expectations for Brown are very keen. On the recount or contest, he is now ahead; not much ahead but enough so as to make it look as if Iaukea might be sidetracked. However, the thing isn't over yet. According to the ruling of the Supreme Court this is a contest. May evidence of machine fraud not be introduced into such a proceeding? If so, Iaukea may have some mighty interesting things to say about the doings in Kakaako.

Touching the possibility of Brown's getting back, it may be said that the new Board of Supervisors will largely control the police situation. It will hold the purse and can cut down the monthly appropriation to a point that will exclude the unassorted collection of pimps and grafters that hangs about the station house waiting for dirty work. A reform grand jury, such as the one now in session, also has great remedial power. Then there is Jarrett, the Deputy Sheriff, who will be where he can see things.

However, Iaukea isn't counted out yet. The fact is clear that he was fairly elected, his losses being, in the main, ballots that were non-effectively cast for him.

TOPICS

TROPIC AND OTHERWISE.

H. M. Ayres.

Talking machine ads. as a rule fail to appeal to married men. Mostly husbands are already provided with talking machines—the kind that won't wear out.

Public feeling over the recount. That tired feeling. Some one, by the way, looks to be due for an attack of that retired feeling.

The seamy side of friendship.—Breaches of confidence.

"Go ask papa," the maiden said.
The young man knew papa was dead,
Also the wicked life he'd led;
So understood her when she said:
"Go ask papa."

Alcohol is the chloroform which enables the working classes to undergo the severe operation of living.

The bootblack's motto.—Once spit twice shine.

People who live in glass houses should pull down the blinds.

The coming fuel.—Brimstone.

Some landladies would better have been born pelicans, they have such enormous bills.

In many marriages her money makes harmony.

LITTLE TALKS

CURTIS IAUKEA—The precincts where I may expect to make my gains have not been gone into yet.

SECRETARY ATKINSON—If these people are treated right there are ten thousand more of them we can get.

A. W. GARTLEY—Sometimes the opinion of a civilian as to whether a place ought to be fortified or not is better than that of an army or navy man.

CHAS. S. DESEY—This Highland Park plot is the most legitimate residence proposition I have ever placed on the market in Honolulu.

LAND COMMISSIONER PRATT—Some offers of land in exchange for the Lanai lands have been made orally, but I can not accept any that are not put in writing.

O. A. STEVEN—Look at this beautiful present Mr. Morgan has brought me from San Francisco—a framed motto of Mark Twain, "When in doubt tell the truth."

H. P. WOOD—I don't think I could have gone to California at a more opportune time to get excursions for Honolulu. The California editors started things off well for us.

PRESIDENT PINKHAM—I suppose if the town has an outbreak of measles we will be blamed for letting it into the town off the Suverie. But then we would be blamed in any event.

ADJUTANT BAMBERY—I was interested in the cablegram about Sal-vanionist colonies for Rhodesia. I suppose we could establish such colonies here if the islands could afford them a living.

PASTOR WADMAN—They may have their quiet fun with John Martin but he is doing very effective work among the prisoners and deserves encouragement. I thought his final appeal at the services last Thursday was excellent.

COMMISSIONER SARGENT—I was mighty well pleased with the review of the Hawaiian regiment and the band on Thanksgiving Day and especially glad that I had the opportunity of witnessing it from the press-stand. I always like to be with the press-boys.

WM. S. ELLIS—While the Band was in Salt Lake the boys had their first poi since leaving Honolulu. It was supplied by Hawaiians living there. They make their poi with flour and knowing how to cook it underground it proves to be an excellent substitute for the real thing.

CAPTAIN SHOTTON—It was an interesting sight to see our hundred and fifty babies getting their meals on board. We rigged a hose along the deck and served in a hundred and fifty nipples and started pumping milk through. The babies were strung along the hose and see how fat they are.

EUGENE SULLIVAN—Our diningroom in the U. S. Immigration station for detained steerage passengers is a model of neatness, as you can see for yourself. Then take a look at our yard. Isn't that a great transformation from the miserable mud flat that used to be here? In a few years this place will be a great coconut grove like the Old Plantation.

Why Things Are So.

WHY do thick glasses crack more readily than thin ones when hot water is poured into them?

BECAUSE glass is a slow conductor of heat, and when hot liquid is poured into a glass vessel, the interior expands before the heat reaches the exterior, consequently there is a struggle between the two forces and the glass flies to pieces.

WHY is a married woman living apart from her husband called a "grass widow?"

BECAUSE she is a widow by courtesy or "grace." The term "grace widow," which is from the French, means any woman separated from her husband otherwise than by death. The French pronunciation of "grace" is the same as our "grass," which explains the corruption to "grass widow."

WHY is a certain cut of beef always spoken of as the "sirloin?"

BECAUSE the term is a corruption of "surlain," from the French word "surlonge," meaning over or upper portion of the loin. Also because King James I., when dining at Houghton Hall, in Lancashire, in one of his fits of humor said to an attendant: "Bring hither that sirloin, sirrah, for 'tis worthy of a more honorable post, being, as I may say, not surlain, but Sir Loin, the noblest joint of all."

WHY is Ireland called the Emerald Isle?

BECAUSE of the richness of its verdure, the term being first used by Dr. William Drennan, the author of "Glendaloch," and other poems, published in the latter part of the eighteenth century.

WHY, when a person is being pressed for money, do we say he is being dunned?

BECAUSE, in the reign of Henry VIII., there lived a bailiff named Dun, who gained a great reputation for making persons pay their debts. When every other method of getting payment had been tried without success, Dun was put to work, and "dun him," became the popular advice as a last resource.

WHY does mercury rise and fall in a barometer?

BECAUSE dry air is heavy, moist air is light, and the column of mercury is affected by atmospheric pressure. The tube of a barometer being open at the bulb end, the air, when moist, can not support the weight of the mercury; when the air is dry the mercury can not resist its weight; hence the rise and fall in dry and wet weather.

WHY is it customary to mount a horse from the left side?

BECAUSE, in the days when a sword was an essential part of a man's dress, and hung at the left side, mounting from the right side would have necessitated taking hold of the scabbard and placing it over the saddle with the hand needed to assist in mounting. By mounting from the left side the sword hung clear and allowed easier and more graceful action.

WHY does the Lord Chancellor of England sit on a woolsack?

BECAUSE, when an act of parliament was passed to prevent the exportation of wool, during the reign of Elizabeth, woolsacks were placed in the House of Lords for the judges to sit on, to remind them of that source of the nation's wealth. The woolsack today is a cushion stuffed with wool upon which the presiding officer of the upper House of Parliament sits.

LONDON'S BOAT ON THE WAYS

On the ways at Anderson's shipyard, near Hunter's Point, is a vessel of graceful lines nearly ready to take the water for a world-gridding trip of seven years. She is the "Snark," Jack London's boat, in which he will circumnavigate the world at leisure and seek adventure and material for his pen. Every place of interest on earth that can be reached by water will be visited by this tiny craft without the annoyances of steamship schedules, freights or coaling stations. The party that is going sea-tramping in the Snark will be Captain Roscoe L. Eames, the designer of the ship; Jack London, the author of "The Sea Wolf," Mrs. London and a crew of three men. The sailing date has not been fixed, but the vessel will probably be launched the first week in December. The first port of call after leaving San Francisco will be Hilo in the Hawaiian Islands and several months will be consumed cruising among the islands. Then the Snark will leisurely drift about the islands of the South Sea to New Zealand, Australia, through the East Indies to Japan and China. The Cape of Good Hope will be rounded and the African coast skirted to Gibraltar, then through the

straits into the Mediterranean, up the River Nile as far as possible and then through the Dardanelles to the Black Sea. The British Isles will be included in the itinerary. St. Petersburg and adjacent ports, and then the Snark will cross the Atlantic to the United States. A southerly course will then be taken and the vessel will go up the Amazon river, thence around Cape Horn and up the West coast home.

The name of the vessel is taken from the book by Lewis Carroll, "Hunting of the Snark." She will be ketch rigged with two masts and an auxiliary power will have a seventy-horse-power gas engine. Under sail she will be able to make ten knots and stripped of her canvas she will attain a speed of eight knots with her engine. She is sixty feet over all in length, forty-five feet at the water line with a beam of fifteen feet and she draws seven feet of water. In the main cabin there are three staterooms besides an engine room, bathroom and galley. She has three water-tight bulkheads.—Examiner.

Captain Ottwell upon being relieved will proceed to Honolulu, Hawaii Territory, and relieve Capt. John R. Slatery of the river and harbor works in his charge, and will also report by letter to Col. William H. Heuer for duty under his immediate orders pertaining to the purchase of fortification sites in the Territory of Hawaii.—Army and Navy Journal.

NATIONAL CAPITAL

(Mail Special to The Advertiser.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 19.—Secretary of War Taft is back again in his giant chair. His pre-election wanderings and subsequent inspection of army posts in the Far West and Southwest did not exhaust his supply of cheer. He beamed upon the little army of officials, and settled down to an attack upon the papers that had been mounting high in his absence. There was forthwith new life in the administration of the Panama Canal, of Cuba, and the Philippines, as far as Washington supervision is concerned.

Army officers approached the Secretary with wry faces as to Cuba. They had been absorbing rumors that things in Cuba were going to the bow-wow. Some of them had nearly arranged it, in their own minds, that the Liberals, disappointed at not securing offices, were taking to the woods and must be appeased by an earlier date for the elections.

All that did not disturb the Secretary. "Some of Gov. Magoon's dispatches have been forwarded to me while I have been away," he observed. "They indicated that everything is going along at Havana about as usual."

Many kinds of discouraging reports can be had out of Cuba, if one goes where the fickle populace is talking and plotting. But some of the most alarming plots that are talked today in Cuba are forgotten by their originators tomorrow. The Secretary knows that conditions are very discouraging. He told the President so. Neither of them are confident that the efforts to set up a new and stable government will succeed. Of late, property owners, who wanted soldiers detailed to guard their holdings, have been disappointed because no soldiers are available for that duty. They have made a "holer," and it has been heard all the way to Washington. There has been no particular reason for their outcry, except a desire for greater security which the presence of Uncle Sam's soldiers would give. Property is in no special jeopardy down there at present.

It is suspected, however, that the gloomy reports are a part of the annexation campaign, of which more will be heard as the session of Congress comes on. There will be organized efforts to discredit the movement for a new independent government. Millions of dollars of United States investments in Cuba are ready on occasion to shriek in one tremendous chorus for immediate annexation. That financial voice will be powerful. It will speak in numerous devious ways at first, as the opportunity offers, because the popular sentiment just now is averse to annexation.

TRAVELER TAFT.

The Secretary is having many and varied experiences as a cabinet officer. He is the great traveler of the President's official family. He may not have traveled more miles as a cabinet officer than Secretary Shaw has traveled. The latter has been out on the circuit a great deal of the time. But Secretary Taft has traveled more widely. No man now connected with the administration in a leading official position has seen more of this country and its possessions. He has traveled all over the Philippines and a year ago last summer made his long remembered return trip with a distinguished party. He has been to Panama and, during the past autumn, has resided officially in Havana. Now he has concluded a great swing around the circle, going into the far northwest and down into the great southwest.

The Secretary is a good traveler. Others of his station would prefer more ease. He takes to the road without protest. He travels thousands of miles on short notice and, between new works on industriously. If previous contact with all sorts and conditions of men and the holding of a number of different offices in very different parts of the globe where the stars and stripes float can qualify one for the Presidency, as such service ought, Secretary Taft has some advantage over his rivals for 1902.

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